

Remarks

Claims 1-10, 13, 14, 16-18, and 80-95 are pending in this application. Claims 1-10, 13, 14, 16-18, and 8-95 are rejected.

Claims 18 and 95 are cancelled.

Independent claims 1 and 80 are amended so that the surfactant that is different than component A is a nonionic surfactant. Claims 14 and 92 are amended to remove "sodium 2-ethyl hexyl sulfate" as a choice for the at least one nonionic surfactant that is different than component A.

Claim Objections

Claims 1 and 80 are objected to because of the following informalities: in claim 1, line 7, and claim 80, line 7, the term "ethoxylate" (second occurrence) is misspelled.

Claims 1 and 80 are amended to correct the misspelling of "ethoxylate" (second occurrence).

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 18 and 95 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

Claims 18 and 95 are cancelled thereby rendering the present rejection moot.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-10,13-14,16-18,80-95 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Li et al. (US Patent No. 6,214,777).

Independent claims 1 and 80 are amended to remove "about" from the upper limit of the ethoxylate of an alcohol having formula I. Therefore, this ethoxylate is present in an amount from about 0.1 to 3 g/l. The Examiner has stated that this amendment will overcome the rejection under Li et al.

Accordingly, claims 1-10,13-14,16-18,80-95 are now allowable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Li et al.

Claims 1-5, 7-10, 13-14, 16-18, 80-85, 87-95 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yianakopoulos (U.S. Patent No. 5,462,697)

Independent claims 1 and 80 are amended so that the surfactant that is different than component A is a nonionic surfactant. Claims 1 and 80 require that this component is present in an amount from "about 0.1 to about 3 g/l." As discussed with the Examiner, the relevant disclosure in Yianakopoulos is to "1% to 10% of at least one organic acid cosurfactant." Organic acid surfactants are ionic. Therefore, the present amendment providing that the second surfactant is nonionic renders claims 1 and 80 patentable.

Accordingly, claims 1-5, 7-10, 13-14, 16-18, 80-85, 87-95 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Yianakopoulos.

Conclusion

Applicants have made a genuine effort to respond to each of the Examiner's objections and rejections in advancing the prosecution of this case. Applicants believe that all formal and substantive requirements for patentability have been met and that this case is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. If any additional issues need to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at his earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 17, 2009

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